

SERVING VICTORIAN SO.CCER

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VOL 1. No. 10

THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 1988

FAX: 527-6533

PHONE: 527-2808

PRICE: \$1.40

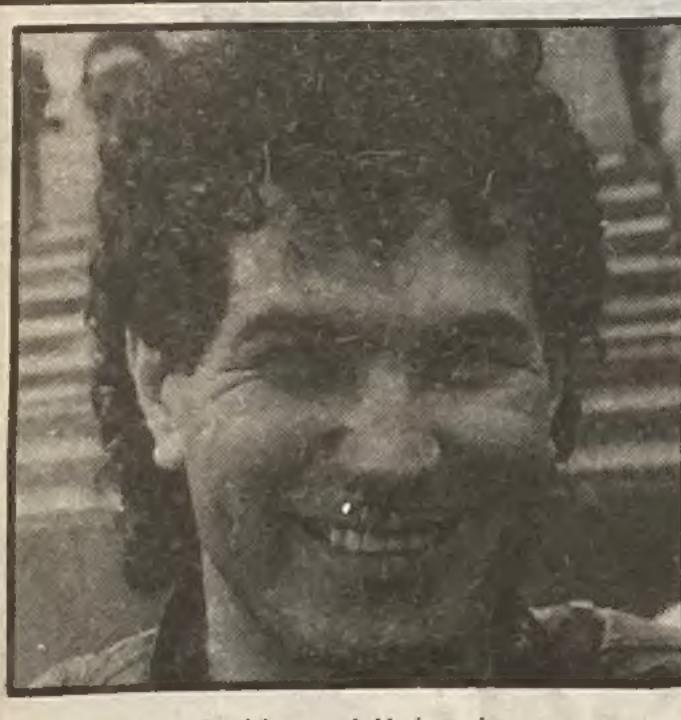
By LES SHORROCK Preston Makedonia committee club's dire position and seems

was meeting yesterday afternoon discuss the League certain to dump coach Ernie Merrick.

After eight games without a win and with only one goal to its name, Preston languishes at the foot of th ladder and the Preston committee feels that Merrick's position is becoming untenable.

Police had to be rushed to the ground after last Sunday's 3-0 loss to Sydney Olympic at Connor Reserve.

The crowd demonstrated against Merrick and club officials at the end of the game and half an hour after the game police had to escort tham away from the ground.



Harry Michaels

HARRY MICHAELS PUNCHED

A frustrated George Cross fan punched Wollongong boss TV entrepreneur Harry Michaels, in the mouth at the conclusion of the game at Chaplin Reserve on Sunday.

It is not known whether the assailant, who was unavailable for interview was annoyed at the outcome of the game which George Cross lost, or wished to express his opinion of SBS television, which has an audience rating of 1.8%.



Miron Bleiberg, declined

It's an ironic twist of fortune for Ernie Merrick. He found himself in charge last year after the club dumped Bill Murray during the midseason break.

Preston was in the doldrums, but Merrick revitalised theteam and with an almost unchanged squad took the club into the final five series.

Now the wheel has turned full circle again. The same squad that did Merrick proud in the second half of the last season has let him down, and although he still has faith in his players and believes they will come good, the supporters have lost patience.

Import Saso Petkovski who arrived with a fanfare of publicity turned out to be unfit and has still to play a senior game. In an effort to improve its strike force, Preston bought Stuart Stevenson, but still the goals didn't come.

Suspensions took their toll too, and defeat seemed inevitable last week when the team was robbed of its two central defenders, Zoran Tasevski and Steve Jackson.



• Ernie Merrick, going?

Favourite for the coaching position as we went to press seemed to be St. Albans' Tony Vrzina.



Tony Vrzina, favourite

Croydon City's Miron Bleiberg has also been considered but is unlikely to accept.



Australia's Charlie Yankos (left) in action against China Taipei's Wang Yen-Wen during the Olympic gualififying match at Auckland on Saturday. Australia won 3-0 to qualify for the Seoul Olympic Games by one point over Israel.

THE RESERVE OF THE PERSON OF T

Media gives soccer the cold shoulder — Page 2

Hawks, Cats more important than Olympics?

MEDIA IS OFFSIDE

AT THE risk of being labelled a 'paranoid new chum' or a 'bloody wog' at worst, may I humbly pose this question: Why was Hawthorn's win in the Panasonic Cup grand final more important than the Socceroos' win over Chinese Taipei and their qualification for the 1988 Seoul Olympics?

If you think that playing in an Olympic soccer tournament for the first time since 1956, when, as hosts, we automatically qualified, is more important than Hawthorne's two-point win over Geelong then you don't read newspapers, nor do you listen to radio or watch commercial TV.

I also suspect that many of you are unaware of the machinations of newspapers — how stories are judged, and what space is accorded them and in which part of the paper.

Bear with me for a minute or so and I'll explain.

POOR RELATIONS

Soccer journalists in Victoria and, I suspect, throughout most parts of this country, are the poor relations of sports journalism.

They are at the mercy of the whims of a sports editor, but, more importantly, the flights of fancy of a man known as a chief sub-



The impressive title of the latter belies the fact that unless he is one of a dying breed or professional chief subs who accords stories the display their content and impact deserve, he most probably is someone who still thinks that soccer is wog-ball and should be hidden

Believe it or not, many of these people are unscrupulous and, in Victoria at least, believe, for the most part, that the VFL pays their wages by granting them the luxury of according publicity to a sport that everyone is interested in and can't glean enough information about.

from public view as much as possible.

That then, is the dilemma facing most of soccer scribes.

The new soccer scribe, pen and pad in hand, heads off enthusiastically in search of a scoop, finds it, writes the story well, then rushes out next morning to discover it buried inbetween horse racing fields or relegated to the sports page threatened by the spill of classified advertising.

DAMN STUPID

The first 100 times are the worst.

You see, we soccer scribes are pretty

Pretty damn stupid too, come to think of it. Dare I suggest that the creeping paralysis of racism is inherent in the treatment given by

most newspapers to soccer stories? I want you to pause for a while next time you search through a newspaper and uncover the soccer story you were looking for.

I don't want you to think that the soccer writer for that paper isn't doing his or her job.

Now you know what goes on. Now you can

understand what it's like to submit three or four stories a week and get just one published and that in a greatly reduced form too.

Now you know what sort of racist bastards are in power positions in many newspapers.

AWFUL PERFORMANCE

HAVING got that off my chest, what a thrill I got watching the Socceroos qualify for Seoul.

But not in the way they defeated Chinese Taipei. Frankly, our performance in Sunday's Eden Park clash was bloody awful.

No, the thrill I experienced was in realising that in a few months' time we'll be strutting our stuff on the world stage for the first time since the 1974 World Cup finals in West Germany.

That's a magnificent achievement, one that



Frank Arok

this paper at least, did not miss the signifi-

And in Oscar Crino and Micky Petersen we are going to go into the Olympic tournament with a deal of skill in midfield.

Now the problems start afresh for Frank

He must map out a preparation program for Seoul. He must come to terms with what he thinks is his strongest line-up.

By my reckoning, he must drop, from his first 11, two of the following four players: John Kosmina, Graeme Arnold, David Mitchell and Jim Patikas.

I can't see how Arok can fit all of them into his best sice.

But what a lovely problem to have.

Good luck, Frank, and well done to all the players who have contributed so much to putting Australian soccer on the map.

Who needs Craig THE telecast of the now notorious Johnston

Sir Arthur plans for the Bicentennial Gold Cup

'battle of Christchurch' between Australia and Israel made miserable viewing for lovers of the game, but at least there was some light relief at half-time.

That came during the course of the interview of Sir Arthur George by SBS' Les Murray. Our leader was at his evasive best as he sought to convince an obviously sceptical Less Murray that the forthcoming Bicentennial Gold Cup was not going to be a Clayton's affair... the 'A' international you have when you're not having an 'A' international, in other

It became plain, as he sought to convince Murray and the viewers that the Gold Cup was 'A' status and not 'B', that FIFA doesn't recognise the tournament as top class.

"It's an 'A' class International but it isn't competitive," said Sir Arthur, artlessly, and that was his rationale for accepting Craig Johnston as a member of the Socceroos.

WHO WOULD GO?

"He rang me personally and told me how proud he would be to wear the green and gold of his country," said Sir A, brushing aside as trifling Murray's questions about the morality

Johnston as I recall was bursting with pride when he was chosen for England at Under/21 level in 1981, and only two years back he was quite desperate to play for Scotland ... no doubt equally pridefully.

"It's a commercial proposition," says Sir Arthur dismissively, waving away such trifles

By LES SHORROCK

as whether it is fair to the rest of the Australian

Who would go to make room for patriotic Would it be Frank Farina, Graham Arnold

or John Kosmina himself? The blatant cynicism of it all is strongly reminiscent of the way those expatriates who love to call Australia home, but can't bear to

think there is a dollar to be made. 'I'll bet Craig Johnston didn't offer to pay his own first-class air fare and waive the match fee.

think of living here, flock back when they

In Sir Arthur's defence it has to be said that he doesn't meet many soccer fans in this country, you can attend any match in New South Wales for instance safe in the knowledge that you are not going to bump into

So when he says the man in the street wants to see Craig Johnston play for Australia, he's talking through his hat... or do I mean pocket? It's my belief that the average fan who will be asked to fork out something like \$18 to see Australia take on Argentina or Brazil doesn't



Sir Arthur George

give a damn about Johnston, and would be highly indignant at the thought of some genuine Socceroo being omitted to make room for his.

But why stop at Johnston, Sir Arthur? Have you checked whether Michel Platini is available?... and there's Rudd Gullit too, (yes, I know he's black, but there must be an



Craig Johnston

Aboriginal somewhere in his family tree)... and what about Ian Rush ... Glenn Hoddle ... There are signs in all this that the ASF is beginning to get the jitters about the financial viability of the projected Gold Cup.

Continued Page 10

TO HELL WITH THE HIERARCHY

IN his column on the opposite page this

In 'The Sun', Peter Desira's coverage of local soccer was reduced to a voted to the National League, nothing at all on the State League.

coverage given to basket-

laide 36ers and Melbourne Tigers.

By LES SHORROCK

beating Chinese Taipei to jealousy

Why do these news- either. papers cold-shoulder our

When I have asked all

the sports editors I have about 100 to 1, I would

'Aussie Rules' in Seoul, favourite game, Rugby

But world-wide soccer average newspaper sports

Your score-card — see Page 13

sports editor in Melbourne I spoke to had

INCOMPETENCE

generated!

Fixtures are chang-There won't be any ed at a minute's notice and 'The Australian's informed, but if we League won't be there - we are being uncothe game in a bad light

> of the NSL dislikes get media releases, if at all, days too late and it would love to see us go the temerity from time to time to criticise it.

buckle and go under and we'll continue to do our damnedest to give you all the news about ALL the soccer in Victoria and to hell

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LITT " FEEL ALVIERAN SAMELER SOMETHING

SOCCER STAR, THURSDAY MARCH 31, 1988 - Page 5

HOW THEY STAND

	P	W	D	1	F	A	Die	
Waltenann				150	- 7	A .	Pts	
WOLLONGONG	8	- 5	2	1	12	- 8	- 12	
MARCONI	8	5	1	2	19	9	- 11	
SYDNEY OLYMPIC	8	4	2	2	10	3	10	
SOUTH MELBOURNE	8	3	4	1	13	11	10	
GEORGE CROSS	8	- 4	1	3	15	15	9	
Melbourne Creatia	7	3	2	2	8	9	8	
Sydney Croatia	6	4	0	2	8	g	9	
Brisbane Lions	8	3	1	4	13	12	7	
APIA Leichhardt	7	3	0	4	11	13	6	
Footscray	8	1	4	3	8	10	6	
Adelaide City	8	1	4	3	7	13	6	
Immentus			9	2			-	

NATIONAL YOUTH LADDER

St George

Preston Mak

		PW		0	l.	FA	F
		7	W	D	L	FA	PI
PRESTON	8	7	0	1	26	9	1.
STH. MELBOURNE	7	5	2	0	22	6	-1
MELB. CROATIA	8	- 4	3	-1	20	12	1
SUNSHINE GX	7	5	0	2	30	8	-11
BU Juventus	7	3	2	2	16	10	
Clarinda	7	4	0	3	15	19	
Caulfield City	8	3	- 1	4	14	17	
Oakleigh	7	2	3	2	17	21	7
Heidelbert Utd.	7	1	4	2	8	10	
Clifton Hill	8	1	4	3	16	27	
Footscray	8	2	- 1	5	7	16	
Nunawading City	8	1	2	5	9	25	
Way./Muigrave Utd.	7	0	0	7	6	25	I
Mational Vo.		1 .					

National Youth League Results Round 8

MELBOURNE CROATIA 3 FOOTSCRAY O CAULFIELD CITY 1 NUNAWADING CITY 2 PRESTON 5 OAKLEIGH 1 CLIFTON HILL 2 ST. GEORGE CROSS O SOUTH MELBOURNE 3 HEIDELBERG UN. WAY./MULG. UNITED 1 B. JUVENTUS 5 CLARINDA bye.

Youth League — Round 9 SUNDAY, APRIL 3 SUNDAY, APRIL 3 HEIDELBERG UNITED v. CLARINDA CLIFTON HILL bye SUNSHINE G.X. v. PRESTON OAKLEIGH V. CAULFIELD CITY NUNAWADING CITY v. MELBOURNE CROATIA BRUNSWICK U.J. v. SOUTH MELBOURNE 1.15pm FOOTSCRAY V. WAVERLEY/MULGRAVE UNITED

LEADING GOALSCORERS 4. Farina (Marc) 5. Spink (Foots) Phillips (APIA) 4. Gray (Marc) R. Stewart (Lions) Paul Lewis (MC) (2 pens) Postecoglou (SM (3 pens Saad (Olymp (2 pens) 3. Clark (G:X.) Easthorpe (Woll) Egan (Juve) Lennon (G.X.) McLaren (G.X.) Meredith (Lions) Ollerenshaw (St. George) Palatsides (Juve) Tasios (S.M.)

Trimboli (S.M.) Vidmar (Adcity) 2. Ainsworth (Woll) (1 Brazil (Woll) Carter (G.X.) Crino (Foots) Druery (Lions) Gomez (Marc) Hagan (St.G) Koczka (St.G) Lightbown (Lions) Lowe (Marc) Murphy (M.Cro) Maxwell (Adcity) Nastevski (Marc) Pontidas (Olymp) Taliadoros (S.M.) . . .

LUCKY SOUTH SURVIVES



Back Row: Jason Kearton, Nick Meredith, Frank Liddell, Grant Lightbown, Richard Bassingthwaithe, Peter Dwyer.

Front Row: Alex Cumings, Frank Mengotti, Alan Niven, John Ogden, Russell Stewart, David Clarkson.

really recovered.

MAN OF

THE MATCH:

BOBBY RUSSELL

SOUTH MELBOURNE 2 (Tasios 8th, Postecogiou 52nd) BRISBANE LIONS 1 (Mengotti 20th) This win took South's unbeaten streak to eight consecutive games, but it was far from convincing.

It all started out so flaws that must give Brian drawn. rosily too, with South Garvey nightmares. taking the lead after only eight minutes and the fans settling back to enjoy highIscoring day.

Paul Trimboli jauntily for a taker. strode past fullback Alex

Tasios was able to side- between them and drove foot the ball home with the ball low past Con rapidly becoming a ease. But then came a goal Giatas. that joited Bouth and . It was a stunning blow ball, past, young Jason. Garvey came out of his exposed the defensive from which South never Kearton who hardly had dugout yelling "get

decision in its favour, it never looked like doing any better than gaining a

Centre-half Frank Mengotti picked up a ball just outside his own what could be another penalty area and went surging forwardNlooking

suddenly Mengotti was Mengotti was the villain, fenders out of position before Postecoglou. They all awarded a penalty for seemed certain to score. ushing the ball coolly to hesitated and quick- hands against the de- but Lions' captain Frank thinking Mengotti dashed fender.

penalty king thrashed the bring South any relief, as

time to sniff it.

That was in the 52nd minute and for the remaining 28 minutes Lions really tore in South. South's defenders, con-

tinually under seige, were at times happy to boot the ball anywhere, and became so disorganised that on occasions as many as three defenders could be seen converging on the

ball in a near panic. A long ball out defence caught the Lions desulting his linesman only kearton to beat. Liddell grabbed him by Postecoglou, the arm and was sent off. But even that didn't

NATIONAL LEAGUE ROUND-UP

ROUND EIGHT DETAILS

SOUTH MELBOURNE 2 (Tasios 8th, Postecoglou pen

BRISBANE LIONS 1 (Mengotti 20th) At Middle Park, Sunday. Crowd 2800 referee D. Voutsinas. Cautions D. Hunter, Niven, (BL), sent off Liddll (BL).

SOUTH MELBOURNE: Giatas 6 - Russell 7, Healy 5, Blair 5 Postecoglou 7 — Kalogeros 5, Foster 5 (Fernandes 83rd), Tasios 6. Tailodoros 5 (Michell 86) — Trimboli 6, Wright 5. Coach Brian Garyey BRISBANE LIONS: Kearton 6 — Cummings 5 (Hunter 55th), Liddell (sent off), Mengotti 7, Bassingthwaite 6 — Niven 6, Ogden 5, Stewart 7 — Dwyer 5, Meredith 5, Lightbown 5 (Clarkson 55th). Coach Juan

ADELAIDE CITY 1 (Vidmar 56th)

MARCONI 1 (Lowe 40th)

At Olympic Sportsfield, Sunday. Crowd 3870. Referee J. Rosis.

ADELAIDE CITY: Zabica 7 — Shillabeer 7, Nyskohus 6, Flounders 7, Northcote 8 (Miller 82nd) - Melta 8, Santrac 6, Villani 6, Vidmar 9 - Mullen

7. Maxwell 7. Coach Zoran Matic. MARCONI: Catlin 9 — Carter 7, Henderson 6, Calderan 6 (Sharne 82nd) Wheatley 7 - Mason 7, Gomez 8, Nastevski 7, Surjan 6 (Rizzotto 85th) -Lowe 8, Gunning 8. Coach Berti Mariani.

MELBOURNE CROATIA 2 (Paul Lewis 75th, & 82nd) FOOTSCRAY 0

At Olympic park, Sunday, Crowd 2203. MELBOURNE CROATIA: Sango - Valentic, Hannah, Dobson, Heys -Biskic Selemidis, Milosevic, Scott - Lewis, Talajic. Coach Ian Wallace. FOOTSCRAY: Nikitovic 7 — Deankovic 7, Murphy 5, van Egmond 6. James 5, Fabrizio 6 — Bozinovski 5, Tapai 5, Lujic 3 — Dimoski 4, Spink 8. Coach Mirsad Fazlagich.

PRESTON MAKEDONIA O

SYDNEY OLYMPIC 3 (Soper 42nd, Saad 76th & 83rd.

At Connor Reserve, Sunday. Crowd 2000. Referee J. Fraser. PRESTON: Traianides - Opasinis, Roodhouse, Piculovski, McLennan -Petrov, Stewart (Soklevski 70th), Campbell, Gojevic (Dimovski 60th) -Smith, Stevenson, Coach Ernie Merrick.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Meier — Barrett, Haniotis, Philips, Hooker — Polak (Koch 85th), Saad, Lee, Raskopolous - Patalis, Soper. Coach Mick Hickman.

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS O WOLLONGONG 1

At Chaplin Reserve, Sunday. Crowd 2200. Referee C. Bambridge. Caution A. Marth (GX).

GEORGE CROSS: Keogh 7 — Marth 8, Weddell 7, Parton 7, Campelj 7 -Carter 5 (Hasler 85th), Markovski 5, Markovac 6, McLaren 6 — Lennon 6, Clark. Coach John Gardiner.

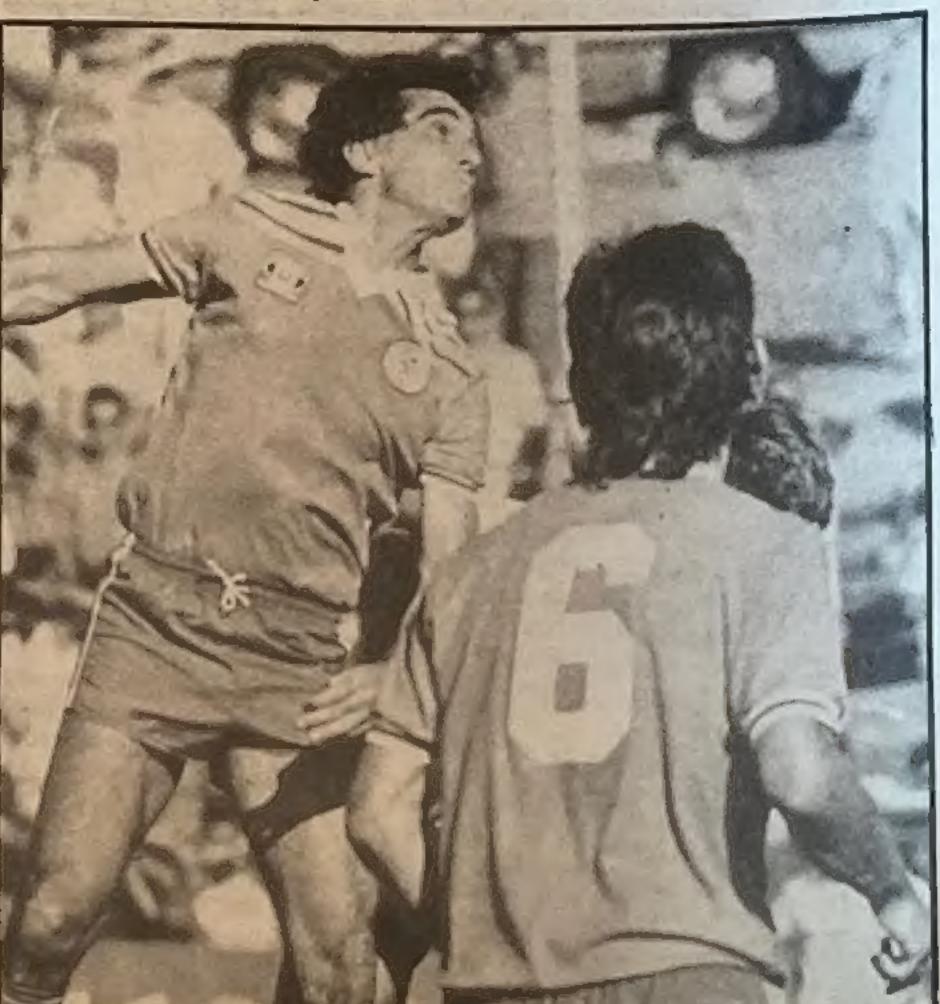
WOLLONGONG: Young 8 — Skeen 8, Ratcliffe 9, Vlietstra 7, Hollifield 7 — Cokely 6 (Kotamanides 75th), Crainie 7, Brodnik 8, Morlando 7 — Keyes 6 (Easthorpe 80th), Brazil 8. Coach John Fleming.

organised Dand flung on when a speculative cross compared with the fate of Harry Michell and Paul from Russell Stewart Fernandes in the closing went over Giatas' head supremely ironic that they minutes in an attempt to only to glance harmlessly

off the crossbar. Lions fought it out right In view of the ease with them. to the final whistle and which Lions seem to gain almost snatched a point, penalties at home,

should go home lamenting the one awarded against

SHORROCK



Frank Liddell, Brisbane Llons captain, sent off.

'BLUES' DISAPPOINTED

MAN OF

THE MATCH:

PAUL LEWIS

was another disapointing day for Footscray fans, who have not seen their team win since the opening match of the season. But if it was

a sickener for the Blues, it was a happy day for

coach Ian endure a lot

SOCCER STAR is published every Thursday by Soccer Star Pty. Ltd., incorporated in Victoria.

Distributed in Victoria by Magdiss Pty. Ltd., 250 Spencer St. Melbourne 3000. EDITOR: Les Shorrock.

Address all correspondence to: Soccer Star, 18 Hawthorn Avenue, N. Caulfield, 3161. Printer & Publisher: Les Shorrock.

18 Hawthorn Avenue, N. Caulfield, 3161. Printed by Streamline Printers (03) 417-2766 Proprietor Soccer Star Pty. Ltd. 18 Hawthorn Avenue, N. Caulfield, 3161.

Art/Typesetting - Butterfly Art Creations Phone: 882-2231

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and the same of th

disappointments himself since taking over the

with some trepidation unstoppable shot from too, missing Alan the edge of the box. Davidson and Robbie list, and with Jeff Olver

transferred its previous first-team keeper, Mirko again in the 82nd minute. four points from its last Sergio Melta began to Runje to Croydon, was youth keeper, Johnny predident Joe Sterpin five. Sango who came through the ordeal well.

Not that he had much to do. The shot-shy attack, Footscray Warren Spink apart, gave him little cause for alarm.

He fumbled once, dropping the ball in front of Dimoski, who was slow to react and missed the chance.

The oppressive heat had much to do with the lethargic standard of tHe game and the crowd had little to enthuse about until right on the hour lively Spink fired over the bar when he should have scored.

position was considered to be in jeopardy before the game, put the crowd out of its misery in the 75th minute.

He went into this game and he fired in an It was his first goal for

"If they played half as fenders struggling. well as the train, we'd win the League".

Wollongong went to the

sive displays that make a

mockery of attacking

itted the occasion.

Wollies'

head.

sweeper.

Brilliant

Wolves.

Still,

supremo,

satisfied

outcome

entrepreneur,

Michaels who

import Alan

The Winning goal

A huge clearance by

Warren Young bounced

into the George Cross

penalty area and Pat

Brodnik ran on to it and

hooked it over the

advancing Sean Keogh's

The match is best

summed up by the fact

that veteran Socceroo

David Ratcliffe was the

man of the match at

MAN OF

THE MATCH:

RATCLIFFE

bought back by Wolves

season was starved of the

ball and no chance to

show off his wares, which

must have been a big a

disappointment to the

Georgie fans as it was to

punched in the mouth by

an angry Georgie fan for

having the temerity to

look pleased about the

result went home

enterprise in bringing out

Brazil, but it is to

with

and

Wolves

for a second stint this

goalkeeper

Paul Lewis, whose

Mark Talajic hit the cross bar, the rebound dropped kindly for Lewis

fine style when he sprang Olympic Sportsfield. having Footscray's offside trap and raced away to score

disgusted Footscray vice- without a win for its first said "I don't know what we can do with our fellows, they leave all their form on the training

ADCITY ROCKS MARCONI

ADELAIDE CITY 1 (Vidmar 56th) MARCONI 1 (Lowe 40th) Dunn, both on the injured the season, penalties ADELAIDE City's revival continued with apart, and he celebrated a fighting 1-1 draw against leader in fine style whEn he in Marconi in very humid conditions at

After the game a three matches after going find gaps in the Marconi

The opening stages didn't look too promising for City, though, as Geoff guile of David Lowe and Zlatko Nastevski had de-

down, Aurelio Vidmar,

GEORGIE

THROWN

TO THE

WOLVES

top of the table with Marconi wins the League

another of those defen- for the sake of soccer.

ditchwater hoped that a more attack-

City has now picked up Adrian Santrac and defence, only to come up against goalkeeper Bob Catlin in great form.

Catlin foiled Maxwell twice in space of two minutes, first striker's toe and then smothering a close-range But once City settled

But five minutes before half-time a clever backheel by Nastevski put and the former youth Socceroo beat Robert Zabica with a low drive to put marconi ahead.

The goal came against the run of play, but City behind as Tony Surjan's drive flashed across the face of an empty goal.

close with a good drive sident Charlie Caruso to early in the second half, declare that he had and the fans were on good broken his contract.

terms with themselves three minutes later when Vidmar snapped up a rebound following Charlie Villani free kick and hammered the ball home.

> MAN OF THE MATCH BOB CATLIN

the game as he swept into Mullen header, but he lost

The game had a surprise aftermath as City coach Zoran Matic, who resigned recently and then out in a TV interview saying that disruptive elewere helping to destroy it Matic has been a loggerheads for some time

with Danish import squad for the Marconi Joe Mullen raised City game, but refused to sit on fans' hopes when he went the bench, which led pre-

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Paul Trimboli challenged by Alex Cummings.



Panic stations in the South Melburne goalmouth.



David Healy and Peter Dwyer clash.





• Jeff Olver in acton.

Summer Soccer a winner SUMMER soccer is over and no-one in his right mind can argue that it was not a success.

There were some disappointing crowds but they were on Saturday which traditionally is a bad day for soccer or they were at games involving clubs which would not draw crowds if their team were made up of 11 naked sex goddesses - on the other hand... it's something Juventus could try.

Anyway, had all these games been played in winter, I'm sure the average crowd would have been much lower.

And I am keeping things in perspective by acknowledging that most of the top-drawing matches involved Hellas.

We don't have a Hellas popping up every

On the other hand, Footscray JUST also has been well supported due to the entertaining soccer it plays and the Maltese are turning up in bigger numbers to watch George Cross winning.

Makedonia and Melbourne Croatia, however have not yet done much to enthuse

In Croatia's case, it is a matter of waiting for Alan Davidson, Jeff Olver and Robbie Dunn to return.

In Makedonia's case - who knows? What would have made summer soccer even more successful was a reliable fixtures - Gate Vardar and others are idle......

Fixtures were issued at the start of the season but systematically changed from week season, meaning that Australia's overseas-The fans had no hope of keeping up and

consequently, many of the games failed to realise their crowd-drawing potential.

But from a personal point of view, I found it much more enjoyable being at the soccer in e February and March than I ever have enjoyed it in June, July or August. If we go back to the traditional season, Olympic Games.

soccer will continue sliding backwards. There would be nothing to reverse the

trend.
On the other hand, by playing in the summer we are at least breaking new ground.

decaying before the summer experiment?

Suddenly there is hope again.

Whitlam, Malcolm Fraser
Paul Hogan or Edna Evera

soccer segment from Saturday morning to Saturday evening. Some time between 6pm and 7pm. By

The 1988 experiment has shown that there

are people out there who can be lured to NSL

grounds at the right time of the season — the

Greeks when Oakleigh, Cualfield,

have not yet started their season; the

Yugoslavs when the likes of Springvale

United, Williamstown and Westgate are not

The NSL hopes that it can switch its season

yet active; the Macedonians when Altona

permanently to coincide with the European

based stars would be available for Socceroo

That is only a minor consideration,

In my view we should implement a new

There are the quick and there are the dead.

Who would argue that club soccer was

season structure almost immediately after the

commitments played during the European

however, compared with other benefits which

could flow from summer soccer.

Alexander, Western Suburbs, Yarraville

Laurie

Schwab

off-season.

A permanent time slot will be allocated within the next few weeks. The new time slot has been chosen to allow

Victorian League, State League and Saturday NSL scores to be broadcast.

I also will preview the Sunday NSL matches and present the usual news topics, discussions and special guests which have been part of our segment since we started about six years ago.

* * *

LEADERSHIP THE Australian Soccer Federation is about to restructure its leadership.

The proposal is for an elite four-man committee - or commissioners, in VFL jargon - to be granted power to run the game. They would either replace or be senior to the present cast of thousands that makes up

the ASF executive. Meanwhile, Sir Arthur George is due to step down in July from the ASF presidency he has held since late 1969 when he took over from Sir William Walkley.

There are two schools of thought about h

Either the new man will be another working president — and in that case, Charlie Perkins and John Constantine are likely candidates - or he will be a figurehead president, a man drawn from public life on the strength of his clout, his charisma, his standing.

We would be talking about a Gough Whitlam, Malcolm Fraser, Neville Wran,

CHOICES

3LO SWITCH
ABC radio 3LO is switching its HOPE or oblivion are the choices confronting Makedonia when it meets John Markovski's George Cross at Sunshine on Sunday.

Victory with Zoran Tasevski and Steve Jackson back in the line-up - would give the despairing Makedonia fans a little cause for

Defeat would be disastrous in terms of the club's 1988 ambitions, as Makedonia was

aiming for the stars when the season started. At Schintler Reserve, we will see the return of Oscar Crino to the Footscray JUST midfield - and that is just what the team

needs to realise its enormous potential. Warren Spink has been scoring regularly, but JUST also needs a regular supply of goals from Milan Dimoski and from the midfield. That's where Crino comes in. He not only scores them, he also sets them up and he runs

However, Sydney Croatia also will be strengthened by the return of its Socceroos -Graham Jennings, Graham Arnold and Alan Hunter - but while Footscray JUST will find the opposition determined and talented, it neverthless should win on its home ground.

> * * * MY TEAM

AT this early stage of the season, my NSL all-star XI, based on performances so far, is:

Con Giatas (Hellas) — Charlie Yankos (APIA, Australia) — Wally Savor (Sydney Croatia, Australia), Gary van Egmond (Footscray JUST) - Paul Wade (Hellas, Australia), Oscar Crino (Footscray JUST, Australia), Steve Tasios (Hellas), Ken Murphy (Footscray JUST) — Frank Farina (Marconi, Australia), Paul Trimboli (Hellas), John Markovski (George Cross).

The property of the state of th



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THE 1988 CUP

FIRSTS PACIFIC TIMBER STATE LEAGUE HEIDELBERGINFRONT

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HEIDELBERG UTD NORTHCOTE CITY CROYDON CITY GREEN GULLY Morwell Falcons Western Suburbs Ringwood City Oakleigh

RESERVES

Northcete City Box Hill Caulfield City Green Gully Fawkon Morwell Falcana Heidelberg Utd St Albans Croydon City Springvale City Western Suburbs

ship, but only on goal 4 0 1 3 2 6 1

> The finishing post is still a long six months away, but it begins to look more and more as though these two teams are going to fight out the title.

first away game.

test with flying colours despite missing a penalty early in the game.

Northcote coach Roy McLaren said last week that the Ringwood game would provide an acid test for his team, as it was its

But it came through the

pleased with him.

"He's the target man stake."

from the opposing coach "Gilder and Ramos practically beat us on their own," says Ringwood's

> Northcote takes on Oakleigh in the all-Greek derby this Saturday and is

bottom," says McLaren, "but we are treating like MacLeod described the top four and the rest.

League. Whilst he didn't any other championship Bergers as the best team score, his coach was very game, because we know he'd seen this season after there is a lot of pride at being 3-0 last week.

State League Preview

BRIAN JAMES

we've been lacking," says Oakleigh was woeful "It's like a National McLaren, "and his wealth last week against Box League team playing of experience will be very Hill, but maybe getting the State League," was good for our younger away from pitch of theirs how he described Heidelmight work wonders for berg. He won high praise the players' morale.

> It's a busy weekend for "They are still thinking all and Northcote like as fast as they used to have most State League clubs to do in the NSL," says fronts up again on Mon- Gus, "and that's the day at John Cain Reserve difference." against East Brunswick in the Dockerty Cup.

League leader Heidelberg has been earning as Oakleigh's lowly position. much praise from its and has the opportunity to "They might be second- opponents as Northcote. Springvale coach Gus

place, but coach Bill Murray is far from happy

Heidelberg

Thomastown this week,

Indications are that the Thomastown defence will give a good account of itself but can the attack get past that seemingly impregnable Berger rear-

Heidelberg Monday off, but Thomastown has to travel to Morwell for a Dockerty

INTER

The closest game of the day could be at Gully Reserve where Green Gully (fourth) takes on Croydon (third).

Northcote, these two are concede a goal, thanks to some sterling displays by

Mirko Runje.

goal or a point is hard to season's success.

Morwell Falcons starting to play to their potential.

Falcons' hopes of registering their first win were dashed last week when virtually the last kick

stay in Reilly's cellar for Cain Reserve, Box Hill v.

Croydon City (draw) at

Bobby Park, NORTHCOTE McLachlan's team won't CITY v. Oakleigh at John

Caulfield managed a SPRINGVALE CITY at helped of course, and last goal at last but its striking Raleigh week Doug Brown, Dean problems are far from over HEIDELBERG Ged and the club is looking Thomastown at Olympic

Like Heidelberg and Stenson were all missing. round anxiously for a mid- Village, RINGWOOD

Robert Madjer is ready to Saturday's game, likely 13.

Gully Reserve, Fawkner 4. Pappas (Heid) CONS at Smith Reserve, Nijholt (Ring) 2. Aretis (Box) BULLEEN at Princes Burton (Box) ST ALBANS at Wembly Przbyla (Mar) Park, Maribymong

Dockerty Cup is on page

LEADING GOALSCORERS

3. G. Runje (Croyd) de Bono (Mar0 Duzel (St. Alb) Popovski (St. Alb. Ramos (North) Theodosopoulo Thodis (North)

NORTHCOTE CITY 3

(Woodall, 5th; Kourenos 24th, Ramos 89th)

RINGWOOD CITY: Blackley 6 — May 6, Cumming 6, Wemyss 5

(inj. HT Whitehouse), Meyer 6, Nolan 6 — Nelson 7, Corvan 5,

NORTHCOTE CITY: Turudia 6 — Leonardos 7, Palmaricciotti 5,

Kouremenes 5, J. Constantinou 7 — Bekiaris 6, Woodall 7, N.

Best player award: Gilder (N) 3, Ramos (N) 2, Nelson (R) 1.

HEIDELBERG 3 (Theodosopoulos 35th, o.g. 55th,

HEIDELBERG: Banovic 7 - Fraser 7, Patiniotis 8, Outsalkis 6

Kanesoulis 7 — Valentine 7, Pappas 6, Lucchesi 7 — Anastasiadis

SPRINGVALE CITY: Boland 7,- Rau 6, Adams 6, Bissinger 6, White

5 — Bryden 5 (Black 65th), Bell 5, Kraal 5 (Bozic 65), Hennessy 5

Best player award: Anastasiadis (H) 3, Theodosopoulos (H) 2,

9, Theodosopoulos 8, Raines 7. Coach Terry Hennessy.

Nijholt 7 — Middlemast 6, Davie 5. Coach Rob Nelson.

At Jubilee Park, Sunday. Referee F. Deak.



and Dave SUNDAY MARCH 27 again and keeping a clean sheet for Croydon.

PROVISIONAL LEAGUE RESERVE CUP

SATURDAY MARCH RV Victorian League Cup

Moorolbark v Frank. Pines..... (4-1) (ft) 5-4 Westgate v. Heidelberg Altona Gate v. Pascoe Vale 2-1 (AET) United Ringw. Spring United v. Clifton Keysborough Clarinda 0-2

East Bruns./Ivanhoe City v. Albion 1-2 Langwarrin v. Waverley City......6-1

Langwarrin v. Waverley Constantinou 6, Thodis 7 — Gilder 9, Ramos 8. Coach Roy City......0-1

> PROVISIONAL LEAGUE CUP Uni. of Melb. v. Berwick City......2-3 Diamond Valley Utd v. Regent.....0-0 Diamond Valley v. UTD won 4-2 on pens.

Sunshine ... 2-1 (AET) Sth. Springvale v. Ascot St. Marks FT 1-1 Ascot Vale

won pens 6-5 Kensington Un. v. Forest Hill 1-1 Ringwood Rovers v. Ardeer 1-2 (AET) Malvern City v. Sth. Dandenong.....0-3 Westmeadows v. Sth. Yатта.....2-0

> PROVISIONAL LEAGUE RESERVE CUP

Ascot Vale City v Dingley/Skye.....0-1 Sth. Yarra v. Monash University 1-1 AET M. Uni. 65 on pens. Westmeadows Prahran. 3-2 Dandenong.....4-1 Diamond Valley Un. v. Malvern City 3-2 Uni. of Melb. v. Lyndale United: 5-0

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STATE LEAGUE ROUND FOUR DETAILS RINGWOOD CITY 1 (Nijholt 60th)

St ALBANS 2 Culina 67th, Popovski 72nd) MARIBYRNONG 1 (de Bono 7th)

At Churchill Reserve, Saturday. Referee R. Simons. ST ALBANS: Grgic 7 Dragovic 6, - Kuzman 7, Colina 7, Jurcic 7 (Popovski 62nd) — Culina 9, Rastocic 7, Gagula 8, Matocic 7 - Duzel 6, Kelic 7. Coach Tony Vrzina.

MARIBYRNONG: Kostrazewa 7 — Stojcevski 6, Smolarek 6, Innes 6 — Baran 5, Watson 5 (Savas 60th), Czapnik 5, Chetcuti 5, Lakic 5 — de Bono 6, Przbyla 7. Coach Jim McIntyre. Best player award: Culina (S.A.) 3, Gagula (S.A. 2, Kostrazewa (M)

OAKLEIGH 1 (o.g. 22nd) BOX HILL 1 (Aretis 59th) At Caloola Reserve, Saturday. Referee E. Venios.

OAKLEIGH: Kardamitis 7 — Laletas 6, Grutzmacher 5, J. Gorst 5 (inj. HT Haidaris 5), Theodoropoulos 6 (Gourlias 70th) -Livingstone 5, J. Guscic 6, Halford 6, Ross 5 — Ward 4, Nicolaides 6. Coach TakisSviggos.

BOX HILL: McKinlay 7 - McMorrow 5, Davidson 5, J. Mori 5, Roodhouse 5 — Campbell 5 (McDaid 82nd), Burton 5, Brimmer 8, McAleer 5 (D. Mori 65th) - McBride 6, Aretis 7. Coach John

Best player award: Brimmer (BH) 3, McKinlay 7 (B.H.) 2, Kardamitsis (Oak) 1.

MORWELL FALCONS 1 (o.g. 40th) CAULFIELD CITY 1 (Cozzella 90th)

At North Crinigan Reserve Sunday. Referee C. Ellis. MORWELL FALCONS: Reynolds 7 — Bennett 7, Gotis 8, Bruns 8, Clarke 8 — Jim Doyle 7 (O'Callaghan 60th), Webster 6, Drakeford 7, E. Cassar 7 — Sokaluk 6, Stirton 7. Coach Bob McLachlan. CAULFIELD CITY: Koletsas 5 — Bitsonis 7, Harris 8, Fattore 7, Filipou 7 — Theoharous 7 (Sahinidis 80th), Griffin 6, Boutsianis 5, Alagiozidis 5 — Zemunik 5 (Gourlias 65th), Cozzella 6. Coach Rocco Ille.

Best player award: Gotis (MF) 3, Harris (C) 2, Bruns (MF) 1. CROYDON CITY 2 (G. Runje 30th, French 80th)

FAWKNER O At Town Park, Sunday Referee B. Upjohn. CROYDON: M. Runje 6 - Van Egmond 6 (Langsbury 65th), D. McIntosh 7, Redmond 6, Brown 8 — Brack 6, Campbell 6, Flavell 5 — French 5, Humble 6, G. Runje 6 (O'Shea 70th).

Coach Miron Bleiberg. FAWKNER: Terzini 5 — Jankulovski 5, Schipano 6, Henderson 6, Walsh 6 — Orlando 7, Cullen 6, Rizza 6, Sabatino 6 — Verechia 6, Storm 7. Coach Mike Lynn. Best player award: Brown (C) 3, Orlando (F) 2, McIntosh (C) 1,

Patiniotis (H) 1. THOMASTOWN 0 GREEN GULLY 2

- Findlay 6, Morrey 7. Coach Gus MacLeod.

Pappas 85th) SPRINGVALE CITY 0

At Olympic Village, Sunday. Referee J. Santa-Isabel.

(Menyhart 25th, Grimaud 44th) At Partridge Reserve, Sunday. Referee A. Frangou. THOMASTOWN: Raponi 7 — Mihailides 8, Higgins 8, Pianolta 8, Arcoraci 5 - Carfora 5, Dougherty 9, Mihos 6, Raguso 6 -Athersych 6, Lewis 6. Coach Bill Murray. GREEN GULLY: Sant 6 - Napoli 6, Cannell 7, McClelland 7, Grimaud 7 - O'Donnell 6, Wilson 6, Douglas 7, Smart 6 - Quigley 7, Menyhart 6. Coach Willie Vassallo. Best player award: Dougherty (T) 3, Grimaud (GG) 2, Douglas

WESTERN SUBURBS 1 (Kopsaftis 5th). BULLEEN 2 (Bozikas 60th, Trogrlic 89th). At Ralph Reserve Sunday. Referee J. Hogg.

WESTERN SUBURBS: Hatzilazarou 6 — Markovski 7, , Dimovski 6, Esposito 6, Kountouri 6 - , Kagioglou 6, Kopsaftis7, Hamill, 6, Vo 6-Tuck 7, Metaxas. 6. Coach Jim Condilis. BULLEEN: Conti 6 - Ruccia, 7, Boin 6, Romano 6, Curulli 7-Angele, 6, Trogrlic, 6, Boarotto 6, Bozikas 7 — Keenan, 6, D'Amico. Coach Jim Kooney. Best player award. Curilli (B) 3, Markovski

The state of the s

Tom McMorrow of Box Hill.

STICCA From Page 12

Neither was able to devote enough time to their old clubs due to work and family pressures, yet both wanted to keep in the

They were prevented from being registered with this amateur league club in accordance with regulations taken from the Minutes of Board of Managers Meeting, 9/5/78, which in summary stated:

"A non-amateur player may revert to a registered amateur player if: (a) The player applies in writing to the VSE

requesting a change. (b) That his agreement with the club he was

registered with has expired. (c) He does not play for any club for one year prior to applying for change of player status. (d) That the player, on applying, has attained the age of 27 (recently changed to 28). (e) A player having reverted from non-

amateur to amateur shall not be permitted to: (i play for anyone other than the club he is registered with.

(ii) Having become an Amateur player he shall be permitted to revert back to

They were able to meet the requirements of all these provisions except for the "age of 28" provision. Both were only in their early 30s, and consequently would not be eligible to

play for at least another five years!

This archaic rule belies all logical reasoning. Why should a player stay out of the game for so long in order to become registered with an Amateur club?

My reasoning of this rule is not clear, but if it was designed to prevent players shifting back and forth between clubs with free transfers, or better, to keep the higher standard players in higher leagues, then it belies all logic because it specifically states that a player having become an amateur player, "shall not be permitted to revert back to non-Amateur". Whatever the reasoning, players like those referred to are being denied the right to play soccer when circumstances prevent them being able to return to a standard which they once attained, but which is evident they will never be able to recoup

An explanation as to why this condition exists would be greatly appreciated, because no matter how much soccer tries to take a step forward in this pro-Australian Rules state, small hiccups in V.S.F. legislation such as this will only work to make the path to success a little bit steeper.

Amateur League Division Two

DIAMOND VALLEY 1 (Burton pen)
UPFIELD 2 (Koutsodimitropoulos 2)
DIAMOND VALLEY: Harty, McArthur, Davies, Obag, O'Donnell, Thomas, Eckardt, Roggeveeen, Fenton, Burton, Mullins.

UPFIELD: Stasinoulias, Nikolaou, Kafritsas, Tsimiklis, Fokianos P, Pantazopoulos, Fokianos K, Koutsodimitropoulos, Balassopoulos, Stamatopoulos, Tsolakis.

After an uneventful first half, Upfield took charge and went ahead through striker John Koutsodimitropoulos. But Diamond Valley fought back and equalised with a penalty from Burton. Six minutes from time, Koutsodimitropoulos

scored the winner for the visitors.

BEST PLAYERS: Diamond Valley — Harty,
Burton, Thomas. Upfield — Koutsodimitropoulos, P. Fokianos, Pantazopoulos.

State League Club Maribyrnong Polonia

requires players in the Under/17 to Under/20 age groups.

Ring 367-4813 A.H. and ask for Henry Skrobalak.

JOHNSTON From Page 3

That is all beginning to hinge on the one and **EMERGENCY**

drawing up emergency plans. it's Football Park if Maradona comes, it will be dear old

The whole thing might not be a commercial grace us with his

an entourage as any rock group and his could well exceed any profit the tournament

If he as much as sneezes between now and July 10, the ASF will catch

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• is Oakleigh's Danny Ward learning a new dance?

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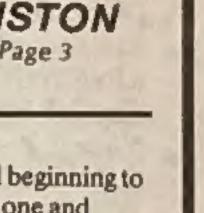
Box Hill's Scott McDaid tackles.

A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH



Box Hill goalkeeper John McKinlay saves bravely at the feet of Oakleigh's John Guscic.

the transmission of the tr



only Diego Maradona.

PLANS ASF Executive Director Brian Emerly

In Adelaide, for instance, Hindmarsh if he doesn't.

success anyway, even if Maradona deigns to

He travels with as big personal demands alone might make.

pneumonia.





SATURDAY IS D-DAY

WITH the league season kicking off this Saturday for all Victorian League divisions, every club is gearing itself for what is surely to be the most important season in its history.

Clubs falling victim to the massive restructuring of the leagues are also facing the real threat of total extinction, and thus are approaching this season in a do-or-die

In Division 1, pre-season favourites include ex-State League teams Framkston Pines and Broadmeadows, with Altona State also looking like championship candidates if last year's form can be maintained.

This does not mean that those teams not mentioned are not in contention. On the contrary, with six teams being relegated, reputations and past performances will be cast aside as every team fights its way through the season.

In Division 2, Doncaster Rovers will be flat out in its attempts to make it back to first division, and pre-season form indicates that they will be contenders for the championship

Other teams pushing the Rovers inclue Sandringham and North Geelong.

Division 3 shapes up as being one of the most even divisions in the league, with any number of teams in the race for the title. The match of the day in round I should be the clash between Moorabbin City and Moreland Park Rangers, with both teams ready to go out firing all guns in their battle for success.

Finally, Divison 4 will also prove to be a tough battle for all the clubs, and the team to watch in this division is the newly-amalgamated East Brunswick Invahoe Abruzzo team,

Victorian League Round-up



who should provide tough competition. Werribee, in the first division, is hoping

that 1988 will be successful both on and off

According to the club secretary Carlo Camerlengo, any prospective sponsors would be greatly welcome in order to enhance the club's financial status, in order for it to become more competitive in the player's

On the field, there have not been any significant changes to last year's squad, having lost only Steve Ellis.

However, top goalscorer from last year, Seve Magnano, is still negotiating a new

"At the moment, we are still negotiating with Thomastown for the services of Tony Constantino," Mr Carmelengo told Soccer Star, "and we have also signed Tony Polzella. a goalkeeper, from Juventus."

Coaching the team this year will be John Colangali, and he will hopefully be able to blend the right combination into a successful

Werribee has been in the first division for three years, and with a strong committee led

by president Jerry Midolo, the 1988 season will hopefully see some long-deserved success forthcoming both on the field and divisions above itself. financially.

... VICTORIAN LEAGUE CUP -**ROUND 4**

East Brunswick, Ivanhoe, Abruzzo 1 (Savio) Albion; 2. (O. Latif 2), on Saturday at Ralfe fourth division. Park, Brunswick.

In a hot and hard battle against both the weather and the opposition, Albian came through as victors, thanks to two beautifully finished goals by Ossie Latif. The game, played in 30 degree heat, was won by Albion who dominated the midfield, where they were able to create many chances for their forward

But it was the home team who took the lead ALTONA GATE 2 when forward Robert Savio rose beautifully PASCOE VALE 1 after extra time. to head in a goal from a corner kick half way RINGWOOD UNITED 1 into the first half. Albion hit back strongly and it was only good goalkeeping from Ricky Mezzada which denied Albion the chance to

The second half was dominated by the Albion team who continually applied pressure on the opposition defence. It was only a matter of time before Ossie Latif. formerly of national league teams Sunshine George Cross and Footscray JUST, equalised for Albion from a neatly worked move which Ossie calmly gathered and pot past the oncoming goalkeeper.

Ossie repeated this move ten minutes before time, when another neatly worked move saw the Albion speedster gather and shoot past the beaten goalkeeper to settle the issue, giving Albion a 2-1 victory. On East Brunswick Ivanhoe Abruzzo's

Despite the result, Fausto Tarquino and

part, it was a good performance considering

that it was up against a team placed three

Mark Bernini, the combine's dual coaches. must be happy with the team's performances over the pre-season practice and Cup games. and all looks well for a successful season in

... RESULTS ALBION 2 (Latif 2) EAST BRUNSWICK/IVANHOE 1

MOOROOLBARK 4, FRANKSTON PINES 4. Mooroolbark was 5-4 on penalties. WESTGATE 4 HEIDELBERG CITY 1 MORDIALLOC 3. SPRINGVALE UNITED 0 MORDIALLOC 3 SPRINGVALE UNITED 0 CLIFTON HILL 3 KEYSBOROUGH 0 CLARINDA 2. LANGWARRIN 0 WAVERLEY CITY

It was brought to my attention recently of a most unusual case where an Amateur League Club, intent on registering two players, were unable to do so because both had once been non-amateur (red passport) players.

Both had been out of the game for more than one year, one of them for over four years.

Continued Page 10

Your weekend score-card

A new Soccer Star feature for your convenience keep this score-card handy and tune in to Radio 3EA, 1224 on the AM dial at 6 pm Saturday and Sunday, for the most complete score service.

EASTER WEEKEND

SATURDAY - NATIONAL LEAGUE Brisbane Lions v St George (ko 6 pm).....

STATE LEAGUE

St Albans v Maribymong Oakleigh v Box Hill Morwell Falcons v Caulfield City.... Western Suburbs v Bulleen Croydon City v Fawkner Thomastown v Green Gully Heidelberg v Springvale City..... Ringwood City v Northcote City VICTORIAN LEAGUE DIV. ONE Knox City v Dandenong..... Altona Gate v Mordialloc ... Essendon City v Richmond Nunawading City v Westgate Albion v Sunbury United..... Frankston Pines v Mooroolbark.

DIVISION TWO Altona City v Waverley City Clifton Hill v Heidelberg City Doncaster Rovers v Sandringham City..... Eltham v Ringwood United Keilor v Brighton/Prahran Yarraville v Port Melbourne..... Doveton v North Geelong **DIVISION THREE**

Coburb v Beli Park Hawthorn v Seaford United..... Clarinda v Mornington Hamlyn Rangers v Geelong.....

Lalor United v Yallourn Moorabbin v Moreland Park Rangers Corio/Geelong v Springvale Un **DIVISION FOUR**

E. Brunswick/Ivanhoe v Langwarrin Ferntree Gully v Rosanna Holland Park v Pascoe Vale Karingal Un v. Keysborough.... Williamstown v Bentleigh Greens.....

PROVISIONAL LEAGUE DIV. ONE

Ballarat v Ardeer Central City v Westmeadows Clayton v Regent.... Diamond Valley v Prahran Malvern City v Brunswick City..... Melton v Mossfiel

DIVISION TWO Ascot Vale City v Berwick City Batman United v South Yarra..... Cranbourne v Springvale Condors Dingley United v Oakleigh Subs..... Glenroy v Monash Uni....

Lalor v Waverley United

DIVISION THREE Ascot St Marks v Forest Hill Brintons v Uni of Melbourne.... Carrum United v South Springvale..... Kensington United v St Kilda.....

Meadow Park v Ringwood Rovers South Dandenong v Port United..... Parkmore v Wantima

DIVISION FOUR Debney Park v Brandon Park

Mitcham United v Altona United Lyndale United v Northern United..... SUNDAY

NATIONAL LEAGUE APIA Leichhardt v Wollongong.....

St George Cross v Preston Mak..... Footscray v Sydney Croatia B. Juventus v South Melbourne .

AMATEUR LEAGUE DIV. ONE Anstey United v Phillip Inst Balwyn City v Northern Suburbs Collingwood City v Melbourne Uni

Diggers Rest v Latrobe Uni..... East Altona v Keilor United Endeavour Hills v Hawthorn Un Waverley Wanderers v Epping Thistle DIVISION TWO

Concorde v Camberwell Grammar. Diamond Valley v Upfield East Richmond v RMIT..... Intercity v Old Scotch..... Maccabi v Furlan United

Oakleigh United v Yarra United..... EASTER MONDAY NATIONAL LEAGUE

Sydney Olympic v Adelaide City Marconi v Melbourne Croatia..... DOCKERTY CUP 1st MAIN ROUND Ringwood City v Doncaster R.....

Frankston Pines v Albion.....

Northcote City v E. Brunswick/Ivan

Box Hill v Seaford. United Maribymong v Mordialloc Fawkner v Lalor United..... Oakleigh v Yarraville Croydon City v Prahran/Brighton..... Western Suburbs v Rosanna Morwell Falcons v Thomastown..... St Albans v Clifton Hill Green Gully v Westgate.....

Caulfield City v Moorolbark Bulleen v Nunawading City..... Altona Gate v Dandenong..... Springvale City v Clarinda.....

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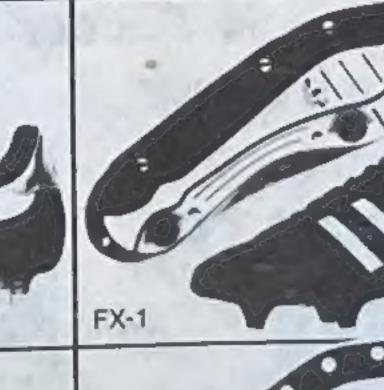
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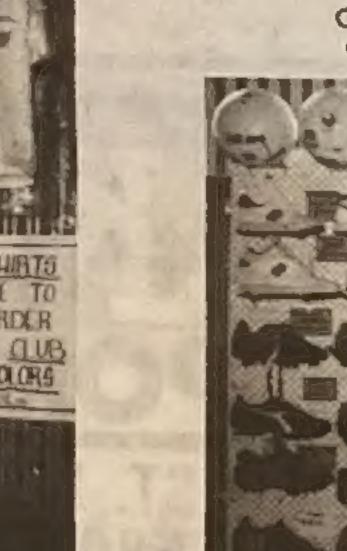
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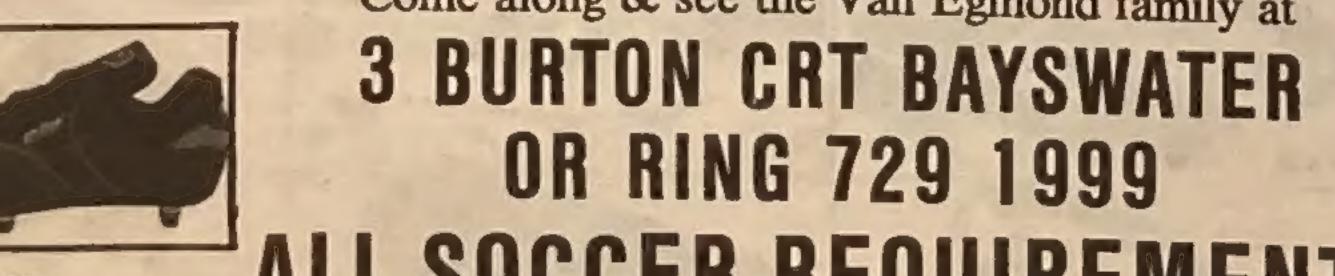
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The Bergers are in Terry's good hands

THERE is no doubt that Terry Hennessy was floored by the series of events which led to part company with Melbourne Croatia last season.

Had he stayed down for the full count, no one would have blamed him. But being a career soccer player and coach, that was out

Hennessy bounced back with all his old enthusiasm when he took over Heidelberg United with a brief to return the club to the National League in one season while rebuilding the team at the same time.

It was a job many wouldn't have touched with a ten-foot electrified pole, but, like I said Hennessy has been a professional almost all his life and for such people there is nothing like a challenge to get the adrenalin surging through the veins.

So, naturally, he jumped at the chance to get back in the swim and it wasn't long before his integrity was challenged.

Out of the blue came an offer to take over Chicago String in the North American Indoor

"I suppose I was tempted," he says. "But the more I thought about it, the more I had to consider my committments here in Australia. "I had given a promise to Heidelberg and I realised I had to stand by it. It is important for your own peace of mind to keep to your word.

At least I have always believed so. "Besides I like it in Australia despite what happened in the past. I am settled and have a good job and I saw no reason to move again."

To realise the strength of the temptation 1983 when he was making a big name for Fawkner).

He was in charge of the Tulsa Roughnecks and he guided them to a startling victory in the Super Bowl. For that achievement, he was voted "Coach of the Year".

This was the first time the city had won any sporting prize of any note and Hennessy and his players were given a huge welcome on

I have seen the video Hennessy was pre sented with. Apart from the game, it shows the reception and there were many thousands gathered at the airport and civic hall to give to hysterical feelings of absolute joy.

BUDGET Hennessy, who had accomplished the impossible on a budget which would have scared off many others and his players could

have walked on water that night. He could have written his own cheque to stay, but he wanted to come to Australia to Melbourne Croatia.

His wife, Sandra, had her parents here, daughter Samantha had settled in and son Hennessy wrestled with, one has to go back to Dean was playing with Box Hill (now

"It was a big wrench leaving the States, but I have no regrets," he says.

And now Heidelberg is getting the benefit of Hennessy's professionalism. Perhaps clubs which are notoriously impatient with their coaches who don't provide immediate success will learn something from Hennessy's attitude. For example, at no time since taking over at

Heidelberg has he complained about losing players, although Socceroo goalkeeper Jeff Olver, Steve Marley, Alan Hunter, Theo Selemidis, Peter Tsolakis and Laurie McKinna have moved on, leaving him with the huge task to achieve in returning the club

"It's all part of the game," he says. "Anyway we are doing alright. In fact we have been playing well recently and we will mprove once we get some new players."

Willie Raines is already here and. according to Hennessy, has the makings of a really good winger. "He's a natural," says the Still to come are Derek Bradshaw, a 6ft

2in. centre back from English third division club York City, and mid-fielder Andy O'Dell who was with Darlington in the fourth They will undoubtedly plug a couple of

portant gaps and, with former Australian international Yakka Banovic in goal, Hennessy believes there is every reason to face the future with confidence. He makes no positive predictions, but

merely says: "We will give the champion-But success has already been achieved.

The huge debt which threatened the future of

Terry Hennessy.

the club last season has almost been cleared thanks to the transfer fees received for the above mentioned.

It's almost like starting from scratch, but the team i undoubtedly in very good hands.

OVERSEAS NEWS... GVERSEAS NEWS... OVERSEAS NEWS... OVERSEAS NEWS... OVERSEAS NEWS... OVERSEAS

UK soccer tables and results

Chartton O Oxford D, Choises O Southampton 1, Derby S Arsensi O, Liverpool 2 Wimbledon 1 (post-coned March 12), Manchester United 3 West Ham I, Newcastie 2 Coventry 2, Norwich O Sheffield Nednesday 3, Portamouth S Queen's Park Rangers I, Tottenham 1 Nottingham Forest 1, Watford 1

Jiboia \$75.00

Ciydebank 1 Dumbarton 0, Hamilton 1 Airdricent-ans 1, Meadowbank 3 Forfer 0, Portick 1 Ciyde 0, Queen of the South 1 Klimarnock 0, Raith 0 East Fife 1. Aldershot O Fulham 3, Brantford 1 Brighton 1, Bristol City 2 Rotherham 0, Grimsby 2 North-ampton 2, Mansfield 1 Chester 2, Notts County 0 Gillingham 1, Pert Vale 2 Waisail 1, Preston 1 Bery 0, York 2 Sunderland 1, Played Friday: Dencaster 0 Bristol Rovers 1, Southend 3 Chesterfield 0, Wigan

European soccer WEEKEND results from the major Suropean soccer leagues:

REECE - Lovadia 1 Larissa 0, Olympialios 2 PAO alonika 1. Veria 1 AEK Athens O. Kalamaria 1 OFI Crete

 Kairal Alma-Ata O Shakhtyer Donetsk 1, Metallist Kharleov O NETHERLANDS — PC Groningen D Sports Rotterdam O, V. Venio 3 FC Den Haag 2, Volendem 1 Ajaz 2, FC Den Bosch 1 Fortuna Sitterd 1, AZ-67 Allemaar 4 Rode JC Kertrade I. Niburg 1 FC Twente Enacheda 1."

Jukla Prague I Spartak Hradec Kralove I, Bohemians Pragu Bratislava O. Tetran Presov 1 TJ Vilhovice 1, Banik Ostrava 2

aragoza 1 Athletic Bilboo 1, Osasuna 1 Valencia 1, Sevilla 2

cnost Titograd 1 Zeljeznicar Sarajevo 1, Printina 4 Osijel Radricki Nis I Rad Belgrade 1, Dinamo Zagreb 1 Red Str

Hatters humbled

LONDON: English second division soccer struggler Reading celebrated its Wembley debut in sensationa style here on Sunday by lifting the Simod Cup with a 4-1 humiliation of

Roared on by more than two-third of the 61,740 crowd, Reading was seven goals, despite fielding left-back Michael Gilkes and midfield n Mick Tait up front in place of cu tied strikers Steve Moran and Bill Whitehurst.

Claim for damages

LONDON: Lawyers acting for Danny Thomas, the Tottenhan Hotspur and former England playe injury following two operations, have Gavin Maguire, the Queen's Park Rangers defender and the club

LIVERPOOL MARCHES ON

LIVERPOOL, bouncing back after its 1-0 defeat at Everton last Sunday, maintained its 14-point lead at the division by beating understrength Wimbledon 2-1 at Anfield on Saturday

John Aldridge gave it the lead after 33 minutes with his 22nd goal of the season and John Barnes, in outstandi from, added a second 12

Eric Young scored for gritty a reward for absorbing much Liverpool's supremacy without key injured players, Brian Gayle, Vince Jones and

Signing
Manchester United stayed in second place but was given a scare by West Ham when Leroy Rosenior scored after 81 minutes to nullify an earlier goal from Gordon Strachan But back came United for both Viv Anderson and Bryan

Robson to score in the closing Champion Everton, lying third, kept up its recent good form by winning 2-1 at Wat Wayne Clarke were on the mark for Everton with Wat ford's Gary Porter replying

Nottingham Forest players scored both goals in the I-J draw at Tottenham. Colin Fos ter put through his own goal minutes for a deserved draw.

Durrant gave Glasgow Rangers a 3-2 win at Dundee on Saturday and kept alive their slim hopes of retaining the Scottish soccer league title.

Pacesetter Celtic dropped a point in a goalless draw with Dundee United, but is still five whose other goals came from Englishmen Graham Roberts and Mark Walters.

Tommy Coyne had cancelled rant's 86th-minute spot kick.

had triumphed 2-0 at home. but Ian Cameron equalised.

to condemn bottom club Mor ton to relegation, while Aber deen's Willie Falconer and Willie Miller sank Falkirk.

Dunfermline looks like job ing Morton in the first division next season, after losing 3-2 t elegation rival Motherwell.

Dunfermline looked like con tinuing its recent revival when was 2-0 up at half-time through Willie Callachan and Craig Robertson, but Mother Cowan and one from Bobby Russell, Cowan's winner com-

Mirren and Hibernian drew 1-1. A header by Gareth Evans put Hibernian ahead,

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE

ROUND NINE APRIL 2, 3 & 4



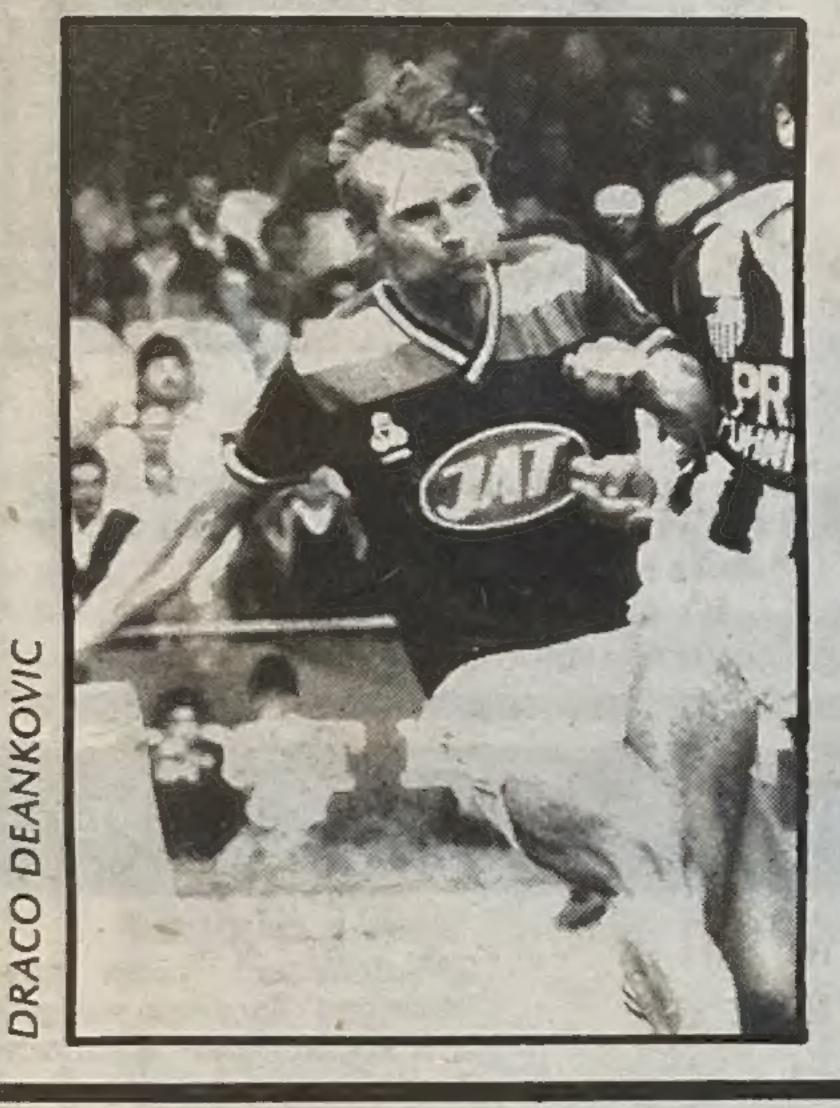
SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS V PRESTON MAKEDONIA

CHAPLIN RESERVE

SUNDAY APRIL 3 K.O. 2.30 PM



KAEL MCLE



FOOTSCRAY SYDNEY CROATIA

MIDDLE PARK

SUNDAY APRIL 3 K.O. 2.30 PM



IY FRANKLIN



BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS V SOUTH MELBOURNE

OLYMPIC VILLAGE
SUNDAY APRIL 3

K.O. 2.30 PM



BBY RUSSEL

BRISBANE LIONS V ST. GOEOGE
RICHLANDS STADIUM SATURDAY APRIL 2 K.O. 6 PM

APIA LEICHARDT V WOLLONGONG CITY
WENTWORTH PARK SUNDAY APRIL 3 K.O. 2.30 PM

SYDNEY FOOTBALL STADIUM MONDAY APRIL 3 K.O. 2.30 PM

MARCONI V MELBOURNE CROATIA MARCONI STADIUM MONDAY APRIL 4 K.O. 4 PM